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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

DATE:

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SUBJECT Piasecki Boleslaw Trying to Organize a New Catholic Party; the SL (Peasant Party); the National Catholic Party.

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

SOURCE

1. Boleslaw Piasecki, a well known and active member of the ONR (Oboz Narodowo-Radykalny, or National Radical Camp) before the war, is one of the most intelligent young men in Poland, though somewhat calloused in his methods. During the war he organized armed resistance against Russia and was captured and imprisoned by the Soviets in 1943. He has been recently released from an NKVD prison. After his return to Poland, he inaugurated and became the editor of a weekly periodical called Dzis i Jutro (Today and Tomorrow) which is Catholic in character. This weekly was created to offset, and eventually to replace, the original and popular Catholic weekly paper Tygodnik Powszechny (Weekly Paper for All). In the fall of 1946, Piasecki and his friend Dobraczynski traveled through Poland organizing a Catholic party under the pretence that they had orders from Cardinal Hlond. They also claimed to have the assurance of the government that, if organized, the party would get fifty percent of the mandates. In the meantime, Piasecki obtained a bus line concession between Warsaw and Piaseczna. Piasecki had a conference with Cardinal Hlond, during which the Primate declared that he does not delegate authority for personal ambitions or politics, inasmuch as his (the Cardinal's) interests are solely spiritual and religious. Piasecki was told by the Cardinal that he could act in his own name and upon his own responsibility.
2. Zona, a member of SL (Peasant Party) is travelling through Poland on President Bierut's plane and UB (Secret Police) escort. He visits larger centers and organizes, in Bierut's name, a moderate party which has a program of indemnity for those landowners whose property was confiscated.
3. Wojciech Trompczynski, the former Marshal of the Polish Parliament has been promised 20 mandates on the government list for his work in organizing a National Catholic Party patterned on the order of the pre-war "Endeks" (National Democratic Party).

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Next Review Date: 2008

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